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# SCIENCE

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13, 1909

THE AEROLOGICAL CONGRESS AT MONACO

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THE international study of aerology, as the exploration of the atmosphere is now called, was begun by a small commission, including the writer as the American member, which was appointed at an International Meteorological Congress held at Paris in 1896. Although the commission bears the title "International Commission for Scientific Aeronautics," aeronautics serves only as the means of obtaining meteorological data in the free air. The work of the organization rapidly extended and five meetings were held in European cities before the session this year, which, by invitation of its honorary member, Albert I., Prince of Monaco, occurred during the first week of April in the new Oceanographic Museum at Monaco. The interest and importance of this, the sixth, reunion, served to bring together about thirty colleagues, from fourteen nations, the writer representing the United States Weather Bureau besides his own observatory at Blue Hill, where the first aerological observations in America were undertaken.

The meeting on April 1 was opened by Professor Hergesell, of Strassburg, president of the commission, who reviewed the progress made in exploring the air since the meeting at Milan three years ago, dwelling particularly on the extensive co-operation in the simultaneous series during six days in July, 1908, when balloons and kites were sent up from forty-four stations on land and sea in the northern and southern hemispheres. He emphasized the importance of determining the direction of the wind at different heights